Railway Projects in Assam

2712. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of railway projects in the country particularty in the State of Assam completed during the last three years;

(b) the total funds allotted and spent on these projects;

(c) the details of new rail projects formulated and to be taken up for the development of Guwahati station during the current year; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The total of 3635 Kms. of new lines, gauge conversion and doublings have been completed on Indian Railways during last three years, i.e. 2002-03, 2003-04 & 2004-05. These include 259 Kms. on New Jalpaiguri-New Bongaigaon gauge conversion project falling partly in the State of Assam.

(b) The total expenditure incurred on new line, gauge conversion and doublings in last three years is Rs. 9530.43 crore (provisional).

(c) No new projects for development of Guwahati station in the current year is planned.

(d) Does not arise.

Freight Corridor Project

2713. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Japan agreed to extend a loan of Rs. 18,700 crores to India for Freight Corridor Project;

(b) if so, the terms of the loan; and

(c) the details of the freight corridor proposed to be constructed with the help of the loan, the period required for its completion and by when it would become operational?